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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/237,466	01/26/1999	DEREK IAN JOSEPH HOPKINS	FHW-037	7489

7590 08/14/2003

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EXAMINER

LY, ANH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2172

DATE MAILED: 08/14/2003

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/237,466

Applicant(s)

HOPKINS, DEREK IAN JOSEPH

Examiner

Anh Ly

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 May 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Request Continued Examination

1. The request filed on 05/21/2003 for a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 based on parent Application No. 09/237,466 is acceptable and a RCE has been established. An action on the RCE follows.
2. Claims 1-8 are pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,453,327 issued to Nielsen.

With respect to claim 1, Nielsen discloses receiving a plurality of data link messages and storing the message in a database (trusted group database, which is

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maintaining each trusted user information, contains e-mail records: col. 8, lines 66-67 and col. 9, lines 1-20); assigning each data link message to one of a plurality of message groups such that each group contains data link messages of a specific message type (each record in the trusted group database having a field associated with the name of one of these group: col. 8, lines 50-55); within each of the message groups, tabulating the messages so as to align corresponding fields (the messages are displayed in a window on the display device (col. 8, lines 15-18 and lines 24-32); displaying the tabulated messages so that the corresponding message content fields are aligned; and displaying a list of field contents for each message content field, the list being filtered to remove repeated incidence of the same content (see fig. 4a, all the field contents are aligned in the display screen; also in the display screen for displaying the message has delete icon for removing unwanted message).

Nielsen does not clearly disclose data link messages. Nielsen discloses the database of email messages (as a plurality of data link messages) of the trusted user group and display each record of e-mail message and on each record has a field content associated with the user of the group.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to utilize the database of e-mail messages of a group of trusted users and display them to the user (col. 4, lines 5-18) as taught by Nielsen because it would made the method having a classification mechanism that allows the trusted recipient to classify the e-mail message (col. 4, lines 8-12) in the analyzing messages environment.

With respect to claim 2, Nielsen discloses the step of performing to all of said message groups the steps of tabulating the messages and displaying the tabulated data and the field contents (col. 8, lines 12-32).

With respect to claim 3, Nielsen discloses the step of placing all of said data link messages of a specific message type into each of said plurality of message groups (col. 9, lines 1-20).

With respect to claim 4, Nielsen discloses the step of sorting said list of field content (field content is sorted based on message ID on each record: col. 10, lines 15-25).

With respect to claim 5, Nielsen discloses the step of filtering one of said plurality of message group so as to display only message having a particular content for that field type, the content having been selected from the list of field content (col. 10, lines 15-25; also see col. 1, lines 64-67 and col. 10, lines 44-60).

With respect to claim 6, Nielsen discloses the step of filtering the list to remove repeated incidence of content falling within a specific range (col. 9, lines 47-60).

With respect to claim 7, Nielsen discloses wherein the data link messages comprising tactical data link message (trusted group user; col. 8, lines 48-65).

5. Claim 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 6,453,327 issued to Nielsen in view of US Patent No. 5,971,580 issued to Hall et al. (herein Hall).

With respect to claim 8, Nielsen discloses a method of analyzing data link messages as discussed in claim 1.

Nielsen discloses the database of email messages (as a plurality of data link messages) of the trusted user group and display each record of e-mail message and on each record has a field content associated with the user of the group. Nielsen does not explicitly disclose a plurality of military platforms.

However, Hall discloses the military sites platforms (aircraft, ship, missiles, submarines: col. 30-37 and their positions as latitude and longitude: col. 10, lines 17-25); messages in digital form (see fig. 7, worksheet window, item 34: a structure of spreadsheet with rows and columns, col. 7, lines 49-67 and col. 8, lines 1-3); and transmitted via wireless network (see fig. 1, item 19, source sensors, col. 3, lines 38-52).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Nielsen with the teachings of Hall so as to obtain a plurality of military platform for analyzing data link messages. This combination would provide a method for analyzing tactical data, information or situation based on the real time data and allowing the operator or user to evaluate and use the real-time data while performing other special function tasks or special focus tasks such as for military platforms' entities: aircrafts, ships and submarines (Hall- col. 2, lines 8-21) and having a classification mechanism that allows the trusted recipient to classify the e-mail message (col. 4, lines 8-12) in the analyzing messages environment.

Contact Information

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Anh Ly whose telephone number is (703) 306-4527 or via E-Mail: ANH.LY@USPTO.GOV. The examiner can be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, see the examiner's supervisor, Kim Vu, can be reached on (703) 305-4393.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to: (703) 746-7238 (for After- Final communications intended for entry)

or: (703) 746-7239 (for Official communications intended for entry)

or: (703) 746-7240 (for informal or draft communications or Customer Service center, please label "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA, Fourth Floor (receptionist).

Inquiries of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.

AL 

Aug. 5th, 2003



KIM VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100